

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 77

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 109

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 77—Relative to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 23, 2009.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 77, Swanson. California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: implementation.

This measure would urge the State Air Resources Board to meet the statutory requirements of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 by ensuring that its analysis of specified emission reduction measures include prescribed components.

WHEREAS, The State of California is leading the nation in developing a carbon emission reduction program pursuant to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (the act), a law designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state by 30 percent by the year 2020, encourage new technology and environmental innovation, and create high-quality jobs that will support California's families; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Air Resources Board design emission reduction measures to meet statewide emission limits for greenhouse gases established pursuant to the act in a manner that minimizes costs and maximizes benefits for California's economy; and

WHEREAS, The economic well-being of the California economy is closely aligned with the well-being of the workforce and the employment opportunities available to California's workers; and

WHEREAS, California's unemployment rate was 11.5 percent as of May 2009, the highest in over 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Fifty thousand manufacturing jobs were lost in California in 2008, and more than 442,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost from 2000 to 2008, inclusive; and

WHEREAS, The number of small businesses with employees has decreased by 400,000 in recent years; and

WHEREAS, Retaining and creating good jobs with middle-class wages and benefits should be an essential element of the act; and

WHEREAS, The draft scoping plan prepared in connection with the act acknowledges that certain job sectors will experience a reduction in workforce and, therefore, will create hardship for the workers currently employed in those industries; and

WHEREAS, The implementation of the act may likely increase California's demand for new, advanced, and green technologies, but

California may not enjoy a comparative advantage in the production of those technologies; and

WHEREAS, The state has the economic and societal responsibility to ensure that an adequate workforce exists to meet the needs of the emerging green economy; and

WHEREAS, The state has the responsibility to ensure that training for displaced workers will be part of the overall plan for retooling the California economy; and

WHEREAS, Current economic conditions require extreme caution in implementing new regulations that may further hamper job creation and the state's economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, Drafting of legislation and other policy initiatives required under the act and pursuant to the scoping plan adopted by the State Air Resources Board in December 2008 has already commenced; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature of California joins California's workers and their families in urging the State Air Resources Board to meet the statutory requirements of the act for the preparation of the best available economic analysis by ensuring that its analysis of the emission reduction measures as proposed in the scoping plan and related rulemaking includes the following:

(a) An analysis of the projected employment impacts of the proposed measures by sector in each of the years leading up to 2020 and beyond that specifies, in particular, the potential for green collar jobs to be located in California or outside California.

(b) Identification of the types of jobs that will be created in California, the industry sectors for which the jobs will be created, and the wage and benefit levels expected for those workers.

(c) Identification of the types of jobs that may be lost in California and the industry sectors in which the jobs may be lost.

(d) A plan for providing California workers a training program for new green technology jobs that are different from the traditional jobs in energy, transportation, and construction; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the State Air Resources Board and to the author for appropriate distribution.